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# Third report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to paragraph 6 of resolution 2110 (2013)

## I. Introduction

1. In paragraph 6 of its resolution 2110 (2013), the Security Council requested me to report to it every four months on progress made towards fulfilling the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI). The present report covers key political and security developments related to Iraq and provides an update on the activities of the United Nations in Iraq since the issuance of my report dated 14 March 2014 (S/2014/190).

## II. Summary of key political developments pertaining to Iraq

### A. Internal developments

2. Since my previous report, the already precarious security situation in Iraq took a dramatic turn for the worse when the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, also known as the Islamic State of Iraq and Al Sham (ISIS) and other armed elements took control of key cities and infrastructure in Iraq's north-western and north-central governorates, in particular in Ninewa, Salah al-Din, Anbar and Diyalah provinces, causing significant civilian casualties and displacement and raising serious human rights concerns. The rapid deterioration in the security situation came on the heels of the Council of Representatives elections on 30 April. The negotiations on the formation of a new Government are ongoing.

#### Political situation

3. Political actors demonstrated enthusiasm about taking part in the electoral process despite a marked fragmentation of some of Iraq's main coalitions. A total of 9,043 registered candidates from 107 political entities and coalitions stood for the 328 seats in the Council of Representatives, compared with more than 6,000 candidates from 86 political entities and coalitions who stood for 325 seats in 2010. The last week of electoral campaigning, covering the period from 1 to 29 April, was marred by intimidations and attacks on some candidates and campaign events, including a complex attack targeting a political rally in Baghdad on 25 April, which killed 35 and wounded 102.

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4. On election day, some 12.6 million Iraqis cast ballots in 2,667 polling centres across the country. Fewer than 1 per cent of polling stations failed to open for security reasons. Special voting for over 1 million members of the security forces took place on 28 April, while out-of-country voting took place from 28 to 30 April in 20 countries, with 165,539 Iraqis participating. Special provision was made for internally displaced persons. On 30 April, Erbil, Dohuk and Suleymaniyah also held Governorate Council elections, originally scheduled for September 2013.

5. Despite the challenging security situation, the turnout rates for all voting processes were assessed as high and demonstrated a continued commitment by Iraqis to the democratic process. Special voting saw a turnout of 77 per cent of eligible voters, while 62 per cent of eligible voters cast their vote in the Council of Representatives elections. Owing to the security situation, turnout rates were lowest in Anbar, Ninewa, Salah al-Din and Diyalah governorates, averaging 54.5 per cent. The overall turnout for the Governorate Council elections in the Kurdistan Region was 76 per cent.

6. On 19 May, the Independent High Electoral Commission of Iraq announced the provisional results of the Council of Representatives elections, following the completion of the data entry process. Following the adjudication of 2,070 complaints and 839 appeals, the Supreme Federal Court certified the final results on 16 June.

7. According to these results, the State of Law Coalition emerged as the largest parliamentary bloc, winning 92 (28 per cent) of the 328 seats in the Council of Representatives. The Ahrar, Nukhab and National Partnership Coalitions secured 34 seats (10 per cent), while the Mouwaten Coalition won 28 seats (8 per cent). The Sunni coalitions Moutahidoun and Wataniya each obtained 22 seats (7 per cent), while al-Arabiya gained 10 seats (3 per cent). Meanwhile, two major Kurdish parties, the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan and the Kurdistan Democratic Party, each won 19 seats (6 per cent). Gorran, which won the second largest number of seats in the September 2013 Kurdistan Regional Parliamentary election, won nine seats (3 per cent). The remaining 73 seats (22 per cent) went to more than 20 other coalitions and parties, including eight quota seats allocated to the Christian, Shabak and Turkmen minorities.

8. On 26 June, the Iraq presidency issued a decree calling for the inaugural session of the Council of Representatives to convene on 1 July, namely, within 15 days of the certification of the election results, in accordance with the Constitution. On 1 July, the Council of Representatives held its inaugural session. Of the 328 newly elected Representatives, 255 attended the session, achieving the initial quorum. A second session will be held on 8 July. Once a Speaker and Deputy Speaker have been elected, the Council of Representatives will elect the President and two Vice-Presidents within 30 days of the convening of the Council. Within 15 days of his election, the President will formally charge the Prime Minister-designate, the candidate of the largest parliamentary bloc in the Council, with the formation of the Council of Ministers within 30 days. Lastly, the Council of Representatives will conduct a vote of confidence in the Prime Minister-designate, the Council of Ministers and their ministerial programme.

9. On 22 May, the Independent High Electoral Commission announced the provisional results for the Governorate Council elections in the Kurdistan Region. The Kurdistan Democratic Party won 34 seats (42 per cent of the total seats,

including 12 in Erbil, 3 in Suleymaniyah and 19 in Dohuk), while the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan won 20 seats (25 per cent of the total seats, including 6 in Erbil, 11 plus 1 quota seat in Suleymaniyah and 2 in Dohuk), Gorran won 17 seats (21 per cent of the total seats, including 4 in Erbil, 12 in Suleymaniyah and 1 in Dohuk), the Kurdistan Islamic Union won 6 seats (7 per cent of the total seats, including 1 in Erbil, 2 in Suleymaniyah and 3 in Dohuk) and the Kurdistan Islamic Group won 4 seats (5 per cent of the total seats, including 2 in Erbil and 2 in Suleymaniyah).

10. Following the elections for the Kurdistan Regional Parliament in September 2013, Yousef Mohammed Sadiq, of Gorran, was nominated as Speaker of the Parliament and Jaafar Ibrahim, of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan, as Deputy Speaker on 29 April. On 20 May, the Parliament re-elected Nechirvan Barzani of the Kurdistan Democratic Party as Kurdistan Region Prime Minister and voted for Qubad Talabani of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan as Deputy Prime Minister. The new Kurdistan Region Council of Ministers was sworn in on 18 June.

**Security situation**

11. The security situation in Iraq's west and north-western governorates, in particular Anbar and Ninewa, continued to pose a threat to the country's stability. Between 14 March and 30 June, at least 3,010 civilians were killed and 4,799 were wounded in incidents of armed violence and terrorism across Iraq. The governorates worst affected by violence were Baghdad, Ninewa, Salah al-Din, Diyalah, Kirkuk, Babil and Wasit. Since the start of the recent crisis, there have been reports of ISIS and armed groups committing grave human rights and humanitarian law violations, including summary executions and the killing of hundreds of soldiers and civilians, sexual violence and abuse against women, kidnapping and harassment of religious leaders, minorities and others, and the recruitment of child soldiers. Terrorist attacks directly targeted civilians and public gathering places, including restaurants, mosques and markets. On 1 July, UNAMI reported that in June alone, at least 2,117 people had been killed and 2,287 injured in Iraq.

12. In Anbar, ISIS and other armed groups continued to engage in heavy fighting with Iraqi security forces in the Fallujah-Ramadi corridor. While Iraqi security forces regained control of central Ramadi, control of some areas on the city's outskirts has swung back and forth between the security forces and the armed groups. Meanwhile, Fallujah continues to remain largely in the hands of insurgents.

13. The Anbar crisis took on another dangerous dimension when ISIS militants took control of the Fallujah barrage on the Euphrates River in early April, redirecting the water flow. This led to extensive flooding in the Amariyat-Fallujah area, while cutting off the water supply to Iraq's central and southern governorates. The Tigris River was also subjected to an attack on 16 April, when ISIS struck an oil pipeline near Al Fatah in Salah al-Din governorate. This led to a massive oil spill and forced a number of municipalities to temporarily shut down their water treatment plants. By 22 April, ISIS had broadened its operations to take control of another barrage at Noamiyah, which regulates the flow of water from the Euphrates River to the Baghdad Belt districts, including Abu Ghraib and Yusufiyah. This led to extensive flooding in those areas, as well as the displacement of local residents and the destruction of agrarian land, livestock and irrigation networks. The Fallujah and Noamiyah barrages were repeatedly opened and closed throughout the reporting period as Iraqi security forces attempted to regain control of the areas. On 5 May,

Iraqi forces succeeded in opening a canal that bypasses the barrage, alleviating the flooding in Abu Ghraib.

14. Continued efforts to find a peaceful solution to the situation in Anbar, including Prime Minister al-Maliki's announcement of a conference on national unity to end the crisis in Anbar, initially scheduled for 15 June, have been overtaken by the major security and humanitarian crisis currently unfolding in Anbar's neighbouring provinces of Ninewa, Salah al-Din and Diyalah. Commencing on 5 June, ISIS-led armed elements launched attacks in Samarra, Mosul, Baquba and Ramadi, which resulted in their taking control of several major cities, including Mosul, Tikrit and Haditha, as well as key infrastructure, including the oil refinery in Bayji. ISIS has also seized the Turkish Consulate in Mosul and has abducted 49 persons, including the Consul General. Reports also emerged of mass summary executions of members of the Iraqi security forces and killings of civilians in these areas. More than half a million Iraqis have been internally displaced by this new wave of violence. The Kurdistan Regional Government deployed its Peshmerga troops into disputed areas, including Kirkuk, following the withdrawal of the Iraqi security forces there.

15. To stem the advances of ISIS and fill the vacuum of troops abandoning their posts in the north-western affected areas, on 11 June, Prime Minister al-Maliki called for volunteers to register and fight alongside the army. Tens of thousands of volunteers enlisted in large numbers in response to this mobilization call, which was followed by a fatwa issued by Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani on 13 June. Al-Sistani's representative later released clarifications limiting the fatwa to a call for volunteers to join the official armed forces. On 20 June, al-Sistani called upon Iraq's politicians to convene the newly elected Parliament soon and called upon all Iraqis to care for those in humanitarian need. Political efforts to solve the crisis remained limited, despite the ongoing consultations between various bloc leaders and political and religious representatives of different interests, who gathered twice in June to seek joint solutions to the security crisis. On 12 June, the outgoing Council of Representatives, whose mandate expired on 14 June, failed to vote on a request by Prime Minister al-Maliki to impose a state of emergency, owing to a lack of quorum.

16. During the reporting period, Iraq continued to face the challenge of the pending adoption of its national budget for 2014, more than six months into the financial year, owing to disagreements between the central Government and the Kurdistan Regional Government over provisions in the budget bill relating to oil export sales targets. On 6 April, a committee representing the major political blocs in the Council of Representatives and the Kurdistan Regional Government was established to negotiate an agreement on the disputed provisions in the draft budget law. Meanwhile, the resulting lack of openness in government expenditures is impeding inward investment and Iraq's ability to secure loans vital to its development programmes.

17. On 22 May, the Kurdistan Regional Government announced that it had commenced oil exports through the Ceyhan pipeline into Turkey, independently of the Iraqi State Oil Marketing Organization. It further announced that the sales revenues would be deposited in a Kurdistan Regional Government-controlled account at Halkbank in Turkey and that 5 per cent would be set aside in a separate account to meet Iraq's continued obligations under Security Council resolutions

687 (1991) and 1483 (2003). On the same day, the Government of Iraq condemned the sales and moved to take legal action against all who engage in transporting, buying or selling the oil.

### B. Regional and international developments

18. The conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic continued to impact Iraq, with a flow of militants, weapons and supplies across the Iraqi-Syrian border, which has presented a destabilizing factor in both countries. Cross-border activities by ISIS have led to at least one major attack by Iraqi security forces inside Syrian territory; on 27 April, Iraqi helicopters attacked an ISIS supply convoy in Wadi Suwab, eastern Syrian Arab Republic, as it tried to enter Iraq. There were also reports of the Syrian air force carrying out attacks against militants in the border region on 25 June. Prime Minister al-Maliki confirmed and welcomed the air strikes the same day. The recent advances by ISIS following the takeover of Mosul on 9 June resulted in the capture by armed groups of the Al Qaim and Al Rabiyah border crossings between the Syrian Arab Republic and Iraq.

19. During the reporting period, Iraq and the Islamic Republic of Iran enhanced their cooperation on judicial and economic matters. Following the visit by the Iranian Minister of Justice to Baghdad on 8 April, Iraq's Chief Justice, Medhat al-Mahmoud visited the Islamic Republic of Iran on 17 April and signed a memorandum of understanding on the implementation of the last of a series of judicial agreements between the two countries. On 11 May, Deputy Prime Minister Rozh Nuri Shaways and Acting Minister of Finance Safa al-Safi held discussions with Iranian counterparts on bilateral cooperation in the areas of banking, standardization and double tax exemption as well as support for investment, and signed several economic cooperation instruments, including a bilateral protocol for economic and investment cooperation.

## III. Update on the activities of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq and the United Nations country team

### A. Political activities

20. In the run-up to the 30 April elections, my Special Representative discussed with a broad range of political and religious leaders the need for constructive engagement in the electoral process, urging political entities to also respect the independence and integrity of the Independent High Electoral Commission. He condemned election-related violence and attacks that targeted politicians and election candidates and called upon the Government of Iraq to ensure that both candidates and voters would be able to campaign and exercise their right to vote in safety. After election day, he further called upon all political entities to refrain from actions and statements that might sway the Independent High Electoral Commission. Since the successful conclusion of the voting, my Special Representative has continued to discuss with political leaders the need to work together to enable the speedy formation of a new government, based on an inclusive national programme aimed at political stability, democratic governance, social cohesion, economic development and the promotion of citizens' rights.

21. During the reporting period, my Special Representative also continued to advocate with all sides for an immediate end to the fighting in Anbar and called for restraint in the ongoing military operations to ensure the protection of civilians. On 14 May, he visited Abu Ghraib to assess the impact of the deliberate flooding by ISIS and called upon the Government, security forces, local authorities and tribal leaders to work together to restore legitimate control over the management of water resources.

22. In view of the current security crisis, my Special Representative held intensive discussions with Iraq's political leaders and urged them to unite at this time of crisis. He also encouraged a swift and inclusive government formation process and offered the good offices and support of UNAMI. In addition, he advocated with the Kurdistan Regional Government to enhance its security cooperation with the central Government in order to address the threat posed by terrorist and armed groups. On 18 and 19 June, on the margins of the forty-first session of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation Council of Foreign Ministers, held in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, my Special Representative addressed a ministerial session of the League of Arab States on Iraq and briefed the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Bahrain, Iraq, Kuwait and Turkey, as well as the Deputy Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, on the situation in Iraq, and called for regional support to solve the crisis. On 23 June, he briefed the European Union Foreign Affairs Council, in Luxembourg, on the situation in Iraq, and called for support to the United Nations humanitarian efforts.

23. In the period leading up to the formation of a new Kurdistan Regional Government on 18 June, my Special Representative also held a series of meetings with various political leaders from the Kurdistan Region, offering full support for their efforts to form a new government and urging them to work in a spirit of compromise.

24. Facilitating the adoption of the 2014 national budget remains a priority for my Special Representative, who has been actively engaged in offering his good offices to the Government of Iraq and the Kurdistan Regional Government to resolve outstanding issues, including those relating to the sharing of hydrocarbons revenue. His efforts to bridge the gaps between the parties led to direct discussions between Prime Minister al-Maliki and Kurdistan Regional Government Prime Minister Barzani. He also held meetings with then Parliamentary Speaker Osama al-Nujaifi and the Chair of the Council of Representatives Finance Committee, Haidar al-Abadi, to facilitate agreement on a way forward on the outstanding issues in the Council of Representatives.

## B. Electoral assistance

25. In preparing for and simultaneously administering the Council of Representatives elections and the Governorate Council elections in the Kurdistan Region, the Independent High Electoral Commission of Iraq displayed professionalism and flexibility in a very tense political and security environment.

26. In accordance with the UNAMI mandate, the United Nations integrated electoral assistance team, comprising UNAMI, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), continued to provide substantive advice and technical assistance to the Independent

High Electoral Commission throughout the electoral process. Since new procedures were being used for the first time, including the introduction of electoral technology and a full ballot recount, special attention was paid to maximizing the integrity and inclusiveness of the process.

27. Technical operations were successfully conducted, although security and logistics remained extremely challenging in Anbar, Ninewa, Salah al-Din, Diyalah and Kirkuk. During the controversy over the candidate vetting process, my Special Representative held several meetings that contributed to the withdrawal of the collective resignation tendered by the Independent High Electoral Commission's Board of Commissioners, thus enabling the timely conclusion of electoral preparations.

28. Coordinated efforts between the Independent High Electoral Commission and the United Nations encouraged the presence of national and international observers. Over 160,000 political entity agents, 72,000 domestic observers and 2,300 media representatives were accredited to observe the polls and guard against irregularities, providing a significant contribution to the integrity of the election process. About 221 international observers, including the League of Arab States, monitored the elections. Public assessments by both national and international observer organizations were positive and provided constructive recommendations for enhancing future electoral processes.

29. The Gender Committee of the Independent High Electoral Commission and the United Nations integrated gender task force on elections worked together to ensure the collection of gender-disaggregated election data as well as the implementation of activities designed to reach out and disseminate gender-focused electoral information to women's groups and organizations. Election day statistics issued by the Independent High Electoral Commission show that 42 per cent of those who voted were women. A total of 22 women were elected to the Council of Representatives, qualifying in their own right, outside the legal quota mechanisms; they nevertheless count towards the 25 per cent of seats reserved for women. The total number of women in the new Council of Representatives is 82, or 25 per cent, of the 328 total seats.

## C. Human rights developments and activities

30. Communities in Iraq continued to suffer from acts of violence and insecurity based on their ethnic and religious affiliations. In particular, such attacks targeted members of the Turkmen, Yezidi, Shabak and Christian communities. The deadliest attack was on the Shabak community on 23 April in a market in Bayboukh, Mosul, with 11 civilians killed and 42 others wounded. UNAMI continued to promote respect for the rights of Iraq's diverse ethnic and religious communities. From 26 to 28 March, in cooperation with the Alliance of Iraqi Minorities, UNAMI organized a conference bringing together representatives of Iraq's ethnic, religious, linguistic and cultural communities, to discuss ways to guarantee their protection from violence and to ensure their full and equal participation in the social, political and economic life of Iraq. The conference led to the adoption of a declaration of principles on the rights of minorities and a road map for legal, institutional and policy reforms. On 21 May, UNAMI and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), together with representatives from the

Government of Iraq, civil society and various communities, marked the World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development by organizing a panel discussion and cultural events.

31. UNAMI continued to monitor places of detention under the authority of the Ministry of Justice. While noting some improvement in infrastructure and basic services in some facilities, UNAMI remains concerned about overcrowding and poor living conditions owing to lack of natural light and ventilation, as well as the lack of appropriate medical facilities and medicines. UNAMI continues to receive reports of individuals being arrested during security operations without any evidence of wrongdoing and allegations of detainees held in facilities run by the Ministry of the Interior and Anti-Terrorism Directorate being tortured and ill-treated to extract confessions. UNAMI continued to observe cases of individuals held in detention without charge or trial for prolonged periods, in particular those charged under the Anti-Terrorism Law, and of persons remaining in detention despite dismissal of their cases by the courts or completion of their sentences, owing to the length of time taken by the Ministry of the Interior to confirm whether there were pending charges against them. Negotiations with the Ministry of the Interior to allow UNAMI unrestricted access to monitor places of detention continue.

32. With regard to respect for fair trial standards, in particular in relation to individuals charged under the Anti-Terrorism Law, UNAMI has observed that the courts often fail to properly investigate allegations by accused persons whose confessions were obtained through the use of torture and that the courts frequently rely solely on such confessions or the untested testimony of secret informants.

33. Iraq continues to carry out executions of persons sentenced to death. Since the beginning of 2014, Iraq has carried out 52 executions, including of two men convicted under the Anti-Terrorism Law on 6 April. My repeated calls for a moratorium on the implementation of the death penalty in compliance with relevant General Assembly resolutions continue to go unheeded by the Government of Iraq. The Kurdistan Regional Government continues to apply an unofficial moratorium on the death penalty.

34. UNAMI, UNDP and UNOPS continued their work to support the Iraqi High Commission for Human Rights, in particular commencing the implementation of a capacity-building plan developed in consultation with the Commission and its staff, funded by the European Union. The lack of agreement on the election of a Chair or Vice-Chair of the Board of Commissioners, in addition to the absence of a secretariat to support the Commission's activities, has negatively impacted its work. Despite these challenges, the Board of Commissioners reached an agreement with the High Judicial Council to establish a referral mechanism for human rights violations. On 9 April, UNAMI and UNOPS visited the recently established headquarters of the Commission. UNAMI provided human rights publications as a first step towards the creation of the Commission's human rights library, which will be accessible to all Iraqis once the Commission becomes fully operational.

35. Attacks on media professionals continued during the reporting period. On 22 March, the Bureau Chief of *Radio Free Iraq*, Mohammed Bdaiwi, was killed by an officer of the Presidential Guard in Baghdad. My Special Representative issued a statement condemning the incident and calling for the person responsible to be brought to justice. On 28 April, in Mosul, an improvised explosive device wounded

six media staff travelling in a convoy with the Iraqi army on their way to cover the special voting process.

36. Respect for women's rights continues to be of concern. UNAMI, together with the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), UNDP and civil society organizations, repeatedly raised concerns about the Jaafari personal status bill and its compliance with international human rights standards. After its approval by the Council of Ministers on 25 February, the bill was referred to the Council of Representatives, which subsequently returned it to the Council of Ministers owing to procedural defects. Meanwhile, the draft family protection law, aimed at protecting victims of domestic violence, remains under review by the Council of Ministers. On a positive note, on 1 April, the Council of Ministers approved the National Strategy for the Advancement of Women (2014-2018). This strategy complements the national action plan on Security Council resolution 1325 (2000), which was launched by the Government in February. On 2 April, my Special Representative opened a conference to discuss the recommendations of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women. The conference was organized by UN-Women and UNDP, in cooperation with the State Ministry for Women's Affairs.

37. Armed violence and terrorism continued to claim the lives of children in Iraq. The technical working group on grave child rights violations of the country task force on monitoring and reporting, co-chaired by my Deputy Special Representative together with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), documented 150 child casualties (32 killed and 118 wounded) in the first quarter of the year. Several attacks targeting schools used as polling stations were also reported during the election period. Two allegations of child use and recruitment for suicide attacks by armed opposition groups were documented in Ramadi in March and April, but could not be independently verified. A formal mechanism for collaboration on child protection between the technical working group and the Government of Iraq in order to address these concerns remains to be established.

**Camp Hurriya temporary transit location**

38. UNAMI continues to monitor the human rights and humanitarian situation of the residents of Camp Hurriya and to facilitate solutions to camp management issues between the Government of Iraq and the residents' representatives pursuant to the memorandum of understanding of 25 December 2011 between the Government of Iraq and UNAMI. On 23 April, the Government of Iraq completed the installation of 1,488 large "T-walls" around 15 assembly areas within Camp Hurriya to increase residents' security. Additionally, to date, a total of 696 small T-walls, 445 bunkers and 95,000 sandbags have been allowed into the camp.

39. United Nations monitors continued to receive reports from current and former Camp Hurriya residents of restrictions placed on them by the camp's leadership. These claims included the prevention of contact with family members both inside and outside the camp, the requirement of permission to interact with other residents and the inability to access medical care provided by the Ministry of Health within the camp without first obtaining permission from the leadership. As at 31 May, 3,160 residents had been registered with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), 3,097 of whom have been processed. A total of 2,434 individuals were determined to have international protection needs. The

United Nations continues to seek durable solutions for the residents through resettlement, consular and humanitarian channels. To date, 379 individuals have been relocated outside Iraq, of which 30 left for Albania as a result of direct negotiations between the leadership of the Mojahedin-e-Khalq Organization and the Government of Albania, 116 were relocated through consular readmission to nine countries, 212 were relocated through humanitarian admission to three countries and 21 were relocated through resettlement channels to five countries, namely, Denmark, Finland, Norway, Spain, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Furthermore, three individuals voluntarily repatriated to the Islamic Republic of Iran during the reporting period, with the facilitation of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

40. Under the auspices of UNHCR and my Special Adviser for the Relocation of Camp Hurriya Residents Outside of Iraq, Jane Holl Lute, a meeting took place in Geneva on 26 June to discuss relocation opportunities for Camp Hurriya residents. Some 20 Member States and several international organizations, including ICRC and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) were in attendance. All participants took note of the urgency of resolving this issue. Ms. Holl Lute, in close coordination with UNHCR, continues to work with a wide range of stakeholders to find relocation solutions for the remaining 2,746 residents. Throughout the reporting period, she visited several cities, including Berlin, Brussels, Geneva, London, Oslo, New York and Washington, D.C., to discuss potential relocation arrangements with key governmental officials, United Nations agencies and other stakeholders. On 28 March, my Special Adviser, at the request of the European Union Political and Security Committee briefed European Union Member States on the current situation of the relocation of Camp Hurriya residents. During the reporting period, the Government of the Republic of Korea approved a $100,000 contribution to the United Nations Trust Fund for the relocation of the residents outside Iraq.

## D. Humanitarian assistance and development

41. The conflict in Iraq's west and north-western governorates has continued to exacerbate the humanitarian situation, with over a million people displaced since January. The Anbar crisis has displaced 93,108 families to date, according to Government figures. United Nations monitoring of conditions for the displaced indicates that significant needs remain, in particular temporary shelter and affordable rental accommodation, water and sanitation, medical supplies, access to health-care facilities, cash for food and non-food items and education. Access continues to be problematic for all humanitarian actors, including the Ministry of Migration and Displacement, which has not been able to carry out registrations of internally displaced persons in many parts of Anbar.

42. In April, the United Nations protection cluster conducted in-depth household-level interviews and provided relevant support, including legal assistance, legal advocacy with local authorities, referrals for social welfare, medical assistance and cash assistance. Since March, a total of 9,155 displaced families have been assessed, while 804 most vulnerable families have been provided with cash assistance totalling $398,600. During the reporting period, the United Nations humanitarian country team also provided support to the Ministry of Migration and Displacement to enhance its registration activities and to establish child-friendly spaces.

43. Since the onset of the Anbar crisis in January, UNHCR has distributed 235 tents, in addition to other core relief kits. The World Food Programme (WFP) has distributed 18,122 food parcels. UNICEF has delivered 42,213 water and sanitation and hygiene emergency kits and IOM has delivered 8,250 non-food items. The World Health Organization (WHO) has delivered two emergency health kits meeting the needs of 20,000 persons, and one trauma kit for 100 major surgical operations. In addition, UNICEF has provided 90 fully equipped tents to schools in Khalidiyah, Amariyat, Fallujah and Heet to enable educational access for approximately 7,000 displaced students. UNICEF has also mobilized communities in Rawa, Ana and Heet to promote school attendance and strengthen relations between the host community and displaced persons. In April, UNICEF commenced the rehabilitation of 34 schools in Al Qaim, where 211 families of internally displaced persons from Anbar and 247 Syrian refugee families are hosted. With the Al Qaim camp and surrounding areas under ISIS control since 13 June, more than 60 families have left the camp towards the Syrian Arab Republic, while other families have sought shelter within the Al Qaim community.

44. Over 40,000 families in the Abu Ghraib district have been affected by deliberate flooding, with 20,000 families displaced. A total of 200,000 square metres of land have been inundated and 49 villages, including 10,406 houses, have been partially submerged. Forty-nine schools have been closed, with two schools destroyed, affecting 12,173 schoolchildren. Two public health clinics are unusable and two more are at risk of submerging. The floodwaters have mixed with sewage and stagnant water, significantly increasing the risk of waterborne and infectious diseases. In response, since 27 April, UNHCR and IOM have distributed 1,043 core relief items, while UNHCR is in the process of providing 420 of the most vulnerable families with cash assistance. Also since 27 April, WFP has distributed 2,500 food parcels and UNICEF has distributed 2,500 hygiene kits and potable water. WHO is working with the Ministry of Health to ensure the delivery of medical supplies and to monitor the environmental and health impacts of contaminated water.

45. The conflict in Iraq's north-western and north-central provinces has resulted in an additional displacement of more than 650,000 people, bringing the total number of displaced since January to approximately 1.2 million people. Since 6 June, approximately 100,000 internally displaced persons have entered Erbil, 200,000 have entered Dohuk and 6,000 have entered Kirkuk. The United Nations country team and humanitarian country team are providing relief to those internally displaced persons who are accessible, including but not limited to several thousands of food parcels, family hygiene kits, core relief items, tents, emergency health kits, reproductive health kits and non-food items from WFP, UNICEF, UNHCR, WHO, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and IOM.

46. The strategic response plan originally prepared in response to the Anbar crisis was revised and expanded in June to take into account the new displacements in north and central Iraq and the potential for further displacement. The aim is to secure $312.1 million to meet the needs of 1.5 million internally displaced persons. On 1 July, the Government of Saudi Arabia announced that it would contribute $500 million to support the United Nations response efforts. This sum is in addition to $42.1 million pledged or secured from the Central Emergency Response Fund.

47. As at 15 June, 225,475 Syrian refugees in Iraq (41 per cent of whom are women) had been registered by UNHCR, while an additional 13,120 are awaiting

registration. Forty-six per cent are residing in 10 camps, 9 of which are located in the Kurdistan Region, while the rest of the refugees are living in host communities. In addition, around 1,000 Syrians are estimated to be waiting to cross into Iraq. The Syrian Arab Republic-Iraq border crossing at Peshkhabour has been closed since 10 April, reducing both the flow of Syrians into Iraq, as well as Syrians wishing to return. The trench built in the Kurdistan Region, along Iraq's border with the Syrian Arab Republic has further slowed the influx of refugees. The presence of Syrian refugees is straining the capacity of the Kurdistan Regional Government to provide adequate social services, while also creating economic pressures. The reduction in the transit of goods between Iraq and Jordan, Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic as a result of the conflict is having a negative impact on the capacity of the Kurdistan Regional Government to address the refugee situation.

48. In view of the need to move beyond humanitarian responses alone, the United Nations facilitated the participation of the Government of Iraq and the Kurdistan Regional Government in a comprehensive regional strategy framework meeting held in Amman on 16 April, convened by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. The meeting exposed Iraqi participants to strategies, policies and programmes adopted by other host Governments in the region that seek to better integrate refugee responses within broader socioeconomic development programmes.

49. During the reporting period, in order to strengthen the capacity of the Kurdistan Regional Government in emergency coordination and utilization of external assistance, UNAMI assisted with the establishment of strategic crisis management and response mechanisms. UNHCR also continued to provide protection assistance, shelter and core relief items to all in-camp families, as well as support to host communities and non-camp refugees through targeted livelihood projects and quick-impact projects, of which 60 have been completed to date. The United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) provided water and sewerage connections to houses accommodating refugees and distributed water tanks. During the reporting period, UNHCR, UNICEF and the Development and Modification Centre in Dohuk signed an agreement to improve the sanitation infrastructure and internal roads in Domiz camp in Dohuk governorate.

50. UNICEF responded to the education needs of 13,296 Syrian refugee children by establishing 16 primary schools in nine camps in four governorates, resulting in a 34 per cent increase in the school enrolment rate for refugee children during the reporting period. In March and April, UNESCO built two secondary schools in Darashakran and Kawergosk refugee camps to provide 750 high school-aged children with a safe learning environment and also procured school furniture and stationery items for 750 students and 50 teachers. UNESCO is implementing a series of activities to ensure access to education and livelihood development for 350 illiterate Syrian refugees in Dohuk, with an emphasis on vulnerable youth and women.

51. During the reporting period, WFP and UNHCR conducted a joint assessment mission to determine food security and nutritional needs of both camp and non-camp refugees in the Kurdistan Region. They also led a multi-sector needs assessment for non-camp Syrian refugees in April and May, aiming to provide relevant data to guide future programmes for meeting the needs of the most vulnerable cases.

52. In March, WHO extended its Early Warning and Response Network to eight refugee camps in the Kurdistan Region. On 30 March, the Ministry of Health confirmed that a baby in Baghdad had contracted the wild polio virus, with genetic indication that the virus had originated in the Syrian Arab Republic. Four more cases of the virus have since been confirmed. From 6 to 10 April, UNICEF and WHO, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, led a national polio immunization campaign, targeting 5,715,936 children under the age of five. The second round of immunization took place from 13 to 17 May, targeting 210,257 children under five in Anbar. WHO is working with the Ministry of Health to ensure that a functional polio outbreak surveillance and response system is in place.

53. On 2 April, my Special Representative and Deputy Prime Minister Shaways signed the United Nations Development Assistance Framework for the period 2015-2019. The Framework will complement the National Development Plan by contributing to building the legitimacy of institutions and strengthening the bonds of Iraqi society. The new Framework promotes social cohesion through two priorities: improving the performance and responsiveness of targeted national and subnational institutions; and addressing acute vulnerability and participation gaps. A total of $838 million over five years is sought for the full implementation of the programmes proposed by the United Nations country team to achieve the Framework outcomes. This amount is less than half of that sought for the current Framework, reflecting a more strategic focus and a realistic appraisal of a less favourable resource climate for development assistance for Iraq.

54. Activities under the current Framework continued during the reporting period. Following the endorsement by the Council of Ministers of the Public Administration reform road map on 21 March, the United Nations has started supporting the implementation of a national workplan, with a separate programme developed for the Kurdistan Region. Under the Iraq public sector modernization programme, supported jointly by eight United Nations agencies, the Council of Representatives Committee on Regions and Provinces revised the Provincial Powers Act and passed the second amendment to the Act. In March, United Nations agencies assisted the Government in establishing a senior executive service system, as well as e-governance systems at the federal and local levels and initiated e-portals for quick access to information for national ministries and governorates. As a result of the concerted efforts by United Nations agencies, by the end of March, the national statistics system had been modernized and the code of ethics for national statistics had been issued. In addition, the National Health Policy was developed and endorsed by the Government in March.

55. Education remains a focus under the current Framework. In March and April, UNESCO, in collaboration with the German centre of excellence, trained 38 officials from the education sector on management and leadership. UNESCO also trained 64 researchers from the University of Suleymaniyah on modern teaching and research techniques. On 2 April, UNICEF facilitated a regional conference in Erbil on positive discipline in schools, which resulted in recommendations to review existing laws and regulations and to develop a framework for positive discipline. From 13 to 15 May, UNICEF, in collaboration with Dohuk University and New York University, facilitated a conference on using education to promote peacebuilding and social cohesion in Iraq. Following the conference, UNICEF signed a memorandum of understanding with the two universities to continue cooperation on using education for peacebuilding in Iraq.

56. On 27 April, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), UNDP, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and UNESCO developed a draft regional master plan to combat sand and dust storms. UNEP and UNDP also agreed to work towards the signing of a tripartite cooperation agreement among Iraq, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Kuwait to jointly track dust storms as a high-impact transboundary environment problem.

57. In April 2014, UNICEF facilitated a regional consultation on disaster risk reduction, with the participation of over 84 Iraqi and Syrian children and young people in the Kurdistan Region. A similar consultation was held in April in Basra for the southern governorates, resulting in all six directorates of education adopting the Disaster Risk Reduction in School initiative. Consequently, the directorates established local disaster risk reduction committees comprised of students, community members, the Ministry of Education and UNICEF.

58. During the reporting period, to accelerate Government efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, WHO, in coordination with UNICEF and UNFPA, developed and launched a maternal mortality surveillance system. WHO, UNICEF and UNFPA also collaborated with the Government to implement a five-year reproductive, maternal and child health national strategy and action plan.

59. During the reporting period, UN-Habitat, in collaboration with the Government, launched a new initiative to support land policy reform with the Global Land Tool Network. On 10 April, UNDP signed a landmark agreement with the High Judicial Council to reform the legal and judicial sector in Iraq; the Government has committed to provide human and financial resources for the implementation of this agreement. On 30 April, UNDP, in collaboration with the Government of Iraq, completed the building of an electricity substation in Suleymanyah, expected to provide 500,000 people with electricity.

60. From 1 April to 30 June, UNICEF conducted a child poverty analysis in Iraq. The results will be used to influence the reform of Iraq's national poverty reduction strategy, in particular to ensure alleviation of child poverty. UNICEF is also supporting the Government in evidence-based analysis and development planning to address the causes of child deprivation.

61. Protection activities also focused on gender issues. On 24 April, UNDP and the Ministry of the Interior launched the first database to track domestic and gender-based violence cases in the Kurdistan Region. The database will provide key data for monitoring and investigating cases of domestic and gender-based violence and for formulating policies to combat such violence in the Kurdistan Region.

**Security and operational issues**

62. During the reporting period, the deteriorating security environment prompted the United Nations to take mitigating measures, including restrictions on movements, as well as a temporary reduction in staff in some locations as a precaution. The safety of United Nations operations has been reassessed on a continuous basis.

63. Owing to the recent prevailing security situation, human rights monitors and UNHCR staff were relocated from Baghdad Airport/Camp Hurriya and continued their duties remotely.

64. On 22 June, insurgents took control of the UNHCR field office in Al Qaim area, including equipment and two armoured vehicles. No United Nations staff were in the compound at the time.

65. Notwithstanding the Organization's efforts and my personal intercession with the Government, it still has not been possible to conclude a status-of-mission agreement for UNAMI, more than 11 years after the Mission was first established. The absence of an agreement continues to significantly hamper and impair effective United Nations operations in Iraq. While some progress has been made, with non-holders of United Nations laissez-passer being granted free multiple-entry visas and not being fined for overstay penalties, the largely cumbersome entry and exit procedures for United Nations personnel persist, and have negatively impacted, in particular, the regular rotation and deployment of members of the United Nations Guard Unit. This has caused delays in their deployment and impeded planning. The lack of an agreement also places staff at risk in the event of an incident, as standard provisions on the arrest and jurisdiction of United Nations personnel, including members of the Guard Unit, have not been agreed to. Customs clearance of United Nations material also continues to be a lengthy process, impeding the Mission's ability to implement its mandate.

## IV. Observations

66. I wish to stress to the Security Council the gravity of the political and security challenges facing Iraq today, which may have devastating implications for the stability of the country and the region as a whole. The international community, including countries in the region, must stand in solidarity with Iraq at this time of crisis. At the same time, Iraqi leaders must rise above narrow political or sectarian interest to confront the most serious challenges to the country in years.

67. The rapidly deteriorating security situation, where ISIS-led armed elements have taken control of large swathes of territory is deeply worrisome. I strongly condemn the upsurge of violence at the hands of ISIS and its supporters and call upon Member States, including Iraq's neighbours, to come together and support Iraq in its fight against terrorism. Member States must meet their obligation to implement and enforce the targeted financial sanctions, arms embargo and travel ban imposed on ISIS. Terrorism must not be allowed to succeed in steering Iraq away from its path towards stability and democracy.

68. Reports of mass summary executions by ISIS are extremely disturbing, and terrorists' use of water as a weapon, which has led to deliberate flooding and consequent displacement of people and destruction of property, presents a dangerous trend. Additional reports of grave human rights and humanitarian law violations are gravely disturbing. Victims include members of the military and civilians, including women, religious leaders, minorities, children and others. I call upon all parties to respect their international legal obligations, in particular human rights, humanitarian and refugee laws, in the areas under their control. The Government of Iraq must ensure timely investigation of reported violations so that perpetrators may be held to account without delay. It is also imperative that the Government of Iraq do everything possible to protect civilians while confronting the terrorist threat.

69. The humanitarian situation in Iraq remains a grave concern. Iraq now holds one of the largest populations of internally displaced persons in the world. I urge the

Government of Iraq and the donor community to provide support to the strategic response plan for Iraq, which will allow the United Nations to continue to deliver urgently needed humanitarian aid without threatening its concurrent assistance to Syrian refugees in Iraq.

70. On 30 April, the people of Iraq demonstrated determination to exercise their democratic right to vote and elect representatives who will determine the country's future. I commend the Independent High Electoral Commission for having conducted the complex Council of Representatives elections with professionalism. It is now incumbent upon Iraq's political representatives to reach agreement on a government that represents the will of the Iraqi people and that will serve Iraq's future stability and development.

71. The unfolding crisis also provides a window of opportunity that must be seized upon and fully guided by processes and timelines determined by the Constitution. The spirit of national unity and reconciliation, non-sectarianism and non-violence recently expressed by Iraq's political and religious leaders must prevail at this critical time. I urge Iraq's leaders to unite behind an Iraqi-led comprehensive and sustainable political process acceptable to all. The swift formation of a new government in the spirit of national unity and inclusiveness remains critical.

72. The next steps towards an immediate and long-term solution should include: (i) a broad-based national security plan that includes explicit guidelines for cooperation between the Government of Iraq and the Kurdistan Regional Government; (ii) an action plan to address the threat posed by all armed groups, based on a comprehensive assessment of the armed groups that fight together with ISIS; (iii) a sustainable and inclusive political process with the speedy formation of a new government; and (iv) an equitable social policy to address the concerns of all communities. My Special Representative will continue to provide and intensify his good offices with all concerned to support Iraq in implementing these steps and overcoming this crisis.

73. Relations between the Government of Iraq and the Kurdistan Regional Government continue to be of concern. It is essential that disagreements over oil sales, revenue-sharing and outstanding provisions of the draft national budget law be addressed. This will ensure that productive cooperation can resume. Other long-standing issues, such as administrative boundaries, natural resources control, minority rights and the establishment of the Federation Council also need to be addressed.

74. I remain concerned about the lack of standards and respect for due process among Iraq's law enforcement agencies, in particular regarding arrests and detentions that have been carried out pursuant to the Anti-Terrorism Law of 2005. Similarly, I lament Iraq's continued use of the death penalty despite my repeated calls for a moratorium on executions in compliance with relevant General Assembly resolutions.

75. I continue to reiterate my appeal to Member States to contribute to a durable solution for the relocation of Camp Hurriya residents outside of Iraq and to come forward with offers to accept residents into their territories. I also encourage Member States to generously contribute to the established United Nations Trust Fund for that purpose. The Government of Iraq should continue to do its utmost to

ensure the safety and security of Camp Hurriya residents until they have all been relocated.

76. I urge donors to contribute to the United Nations Development Assistance Framework priorities to enable the full implementation of the Framework's programmes. These programmes complement Iraq's National Development Plan and will contribute to building social cohesion and legitimate institutions. Progress in these areas will allow the Government of Iraq to demonstrate its continued efforts towards sustainable recovery and development for vulnerable communities.

77. I am deeply troubled by the continued absence of a status-of-mission agreement for UNAMI. I once again call upon the Government of Iraq to cooperate with the United Nations in taking swift action to ensure its finalization and entry into force. I also seek the support of the Security Council in encouraging the Government to ensure the earliest possible resolution of this issue.

78. Lastly, I thank my Special Representative, Nickolay Mladenov, and the men and women of the United Nations in Iraq for their tireless and often courageous efforts. They will continue to support the Government of Iraq and all Iraqi people at this time of crisis. I trust that international partners, including members of the Security Council and Iraq's neighbours, will continue to support my Special Representative as he implements his mandate.